

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

21. (currently amended) A method for ~~an~~ composing electronic mail message comprising the steps of:

- (a) composing a body of a message;
- (b) selecting registrant data for a prescribed area;
- (c) selecting attributes and a setting for association with the body of the message, the attributes and the setting for automatically determining a list of recipients of the message according to the registrant data in the prescribed area; and
- (d) sending the message to the list of recipients.

22. (previously presented) A method as recited in Claim 21, wherein the attributes are a group name, file name and template.

23. (previously presented) A method as recited in Claim 21, wherein the setting is selected from a group consisting of: transmitting the message only to destinations identified in the prescribed area; transmitting the message to destinations identified in the prescribed area plus any additional destinations associated with the attributes; and transmitting the message only to the additional destinations associated with the attributes.

24. (currently amended) A server for processing electronic mail in communication with clients over a distributed computing network, the server comprising:

(a) a memory storing ~~an instruction set~~, templates, rules for settings, group names associated with a plurality of registrants, and mail addresses related to the plurality of registrants; and

(b) a processor ~~for running the instruction set~~, the processor being in communication with the memory and the distributed computing network, wherein the processor is operative to:

- (i) read a setting and a group name from attribute information associated with an electronic mail message;
- (ii) determine the plurality of registrants associated with the group name;
- (iii) detect destinations in a prescribed region of the electronic mail message;
- (iv) classify the plurality of registrants into a first group associated with the group name and a second group not associated with the group name;
- (v) determine a list of recipients for the electronic mail message according to a rule associated with the setting, the rule being for determining whether the first and second groups receive the electronic mail message; and
- (vi) transmit the electronic mail message to the list of recipients.

25. (previously presented) A server as recited in Claim 24, wherein the prescribed region is within the attribute information.

26. (previously presented) A server as recited in Claim 24, wherein the electronic mail message includes an attachment, and the processor is further operative to determine a list of recipients for the attachment based upon applying the rule associated with the setting.

27. (currently amended) A server as recited in Claim 24, wherein the setting is selected from a plurality of options by an the user who composed the electronic mail message, each option having a rule associated therewith.

28. (previously presented) A server as recited in Claim 27, the processor is further operative to classify a third group being destinations associated with the group name but not part of the plurality of registrants.

29. (previously presented) A server as recited in Claim 28, wherein the rules are selected from the group consisting of: the list of recipients is the first group; the list of recipients is the second group; and the list of recipients is the first and second group with a carbon copy to the third group.

30. (currently amended) An e-mail apparatus comprising:  
first means for composing a body of a message;  
second means for selecting registrant data for a prescribed area;  
third means for selecting attributes and a setting for association with the body of the message, the attributes and the setting for determining, without user intervention, a

list of recipients of the message according to the registrant data in the prescribed area;  
and

fourth means for sending the message to the list of recipients.

31. (previously presented) An e-mail apparatus as recited in Claim  
30, wherein the first means is a desktop computer.

32. (previously presented) An e-mail apparatus as recited in Claim  
30, wherein the second means is a desktop computer.

33. (previously presented) An e-mail apparatus as recited in Claim  
30, wherein the third means is a desktop computer.

34. (previously presented) An e-mail apparatus as recited in Claim  
30, wherein the first means is a computer in communication with a  
distributed computing network.